

have reduced the inconveniences and hardships of the Arctic service to a minimum. You are conversant with the language and customs of the Eskimo, and are personally acquainted with every individual in the tribe. They have become accustomed to your leadership, and if you succeed in transporting the selected hunters and the best families to the north shore of Grantland, as you propose, you will thereby establish a base which will enable you to live in safety and comparative comfort for an indefinite period.

**Previous Efforts Reviewed.**  
"Grantland as such a base has great advantages over Spitzbergen or Franz Josef Land, or any other known point, in that it has an extensive shore line which a party retreating from the pole cannot fail to find, whatever may be the extent of the polar drift."  
"In establishing a colony of Eskimos at this point, you thereby establish a self-sustaining base at the nearest practicable point to the pole. Such self-sustaining base has not heretofore been established in any such high latitude. Your ability to forge your ship to a high northing with this Eskimo colony, is all important to your success. Such northing has been made by the Polar, the Alert, the Discovery, and the Proteus. There would seem to be no reason why you cannot do the same. Knowledge of ice conditions that has been gained since that time, will certainly enable you to provide a ship better adapted to the purpose than either of these."

**National Pride Involved.**  
"The attainment of the pole should be your main object. Nothing short will suffice. The discovery of the poles is all that remains to complete the map of the world. That map should be completed in our generation and by our countrymen. If it is claimed that the enterprise is fraught with danger and privation, the answer is that geographical discovery in all ages has been purchased at the price of heroic courage and noble sacrifice. Our national pride is involved in the undertaking, and this department expects that you will accomplish your purpose and bring forth distinct results to a service of illustrious traditions."

In conclusion, I am pleased to inform you that the President of the United States sympathizes with your cause and approves the enterprise. With best wishes for your health and confidence in your success, I am  
Respectfully,  
"CHARLES H. DARLING,  
"Acting Secretary."

## HOTEL REGENT FIRE MYSTERY AS TO CAUSE

Manager at a Loss to Account for Its Origin.

The cause of the fire which broke out in the Hotel Regent yesterday morning is still a mystery. Fire Marshal Bieber has not yet made an examination of the premises, and the manager of the hotel is at a loss to explain why a fire should start in a part of the hotel practically unoccupied at present. It is said that the damage done by fire and water will amount to about \$7,000.

The fire was discovered almost immediately, and the flames were held under control after ten minutes of hard work.

The fire appeared more serious at first than it really was, as dense columns of smoke poured out of the windows in the Fifteenth Street front, and in the alley between the hotel and Chase's Theater.

Rooms 278, 282, and 284, and the corridor on which these were located, were the only portions of the building damaged by fire. The rest of the loss was caused by smoke and water.

The water which soaked through four stories did much damage to the wall paper, paint and carpets.

The furnishings of the hotel are all well insured by the proprietor, Robert R. Murphy. O. G. Staples, the owner of the building, will recover the cost of repairing damages to the building proper from insurance.

The guests in the hotel were much alarmed when the fire broke out, but soon regained confidence when the extent of the fire was ascertained. It is thought that the damage to the hotel was not great enough to affect its business materially.

## WINE CONDEMNED UNDER PURE FOOD LAW

Twenty-five cases of white wine, imported from Bordeaux, France, have been condemned by the Treasury under the pure food laws because it was found to contain salicylic acid. The importer will be given a reasonable time in which to export the wine. Should he fail to do so, the wine will be destroyed by the department. This is the first instance wherein any imported foodstuffs or wine has been condemned by the department under the pure food law.

## MORGAN IS PUT IN JAIL FOR NOT PAYING ALIMONY

Charles R. Morgan, who is suing his wife, Fannie E. Morgan, for divorce, has been committed to jail on a contempt order, for failing to pay his wife alimony and counsel fees. Mr. Morgan voluntarily surrendered himself to the marshal.

**TEETH WITHOUT PAIN.** No extracting. No pain. Look, feel, act, and last longer than natural teeth. Shrunken faces made normal. Painless Filling.

**DR. J. L. WILSON.**  
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WATCH  
REPAIRING.**  
Best Main Spring, .....75c  
Watch Crystal, .....1.00  
All work guaranteed.  
ISAIDORE KAIN,  
Watchmaker,  
Cor. 8th and G sts. so.

## WALKER R. HOPKINS TAKES HIS OWN LIFE

Weapon Used a Thirty-Eight Caliber Revolver.

A FORMER LETTER CARRIER

Deed Committed Near Cabin John Bridge—Death Was Instantaneous. Home on Parole.

Walker R. Hopkins, forty-six years old, for fifteen years a letter carrier, yesterday afternoon committed suicide in a little bypath running from the Little Falls station on the Cabin John Bridge car line to the Chain Bridge, by shooting himself in the mouth. The weapon used was a thirty-eight caliber American bulldog revolver, the ball passing entirely through the head, coming out near the crown. Death was instantaneous.

It was about 2 o'clock in the afternoon when three negroes—Howard Moten, Edward Jones, and Joseph Parker—living in Hall's Hill, Va., and employed at Smith's stone crusher, left a car at the Little Falls station and started to walk to Chain Bridge. Half way to the bridge they came upon the body of a man lying prone in the path, a negroes rushed to the house of a Mr. Rollins nearby. Mrs. Rollins was at home, and she sent a man named Ferguson to the High View Hotel, at the Virginia end of Chain Bridge, who telephoned the police of the Seventh precinct. The patrol wagon was sent out in charge of Policeman Fisher, and the body was brought to the police station, where it was met by Morgue-master Schoneberger and conveyed to the morgue.

**Clue as to Identity.**  
Arrived at the morgue, a search was made of the clothing of the dead man. One dollar and nineteen cents in money; an illegible pawn ticket, from Fulton's pawn shop, signed "W. R. H.," and, finally, in an inner pocket, an envelope, addressed to "W. R. Hopkins, Carrier, Station B," were found. By this means a clue was established to his identity, which was confirmed last night when C. E. Campbell, a brother-in-law of the dead man, who is also a letter-carrier, and lives at 621 B Street northeast, called at the morgue and identified the body.

Hopkins was a native of Bladenburg, Md. He came to this city sixteen years ago, and one year later was appointed a letter-carrier. Thirteen years ago he married, and his wife and two children—Winfield, twelve years old, and Edith, seven—survive him. The family lived at 321 Thirteenth Street southeast. For more than a year Hopkins has been suffering from melancholia, though his wife said last night that he had never threatened suicide.

**Peculiar Actions.**  
On July 1 last Hopkins resigned his position, and a few days later was arrested for peculiar actions with a bicycle, and it developed that he had delusions about vast wealth to be made from bicycles. He was committed to St. Elizabeth's Insane Asylum on July 7. He speedily improved, and Dr. Stack has been permitting him to go home at intervals on parole.

He came home on parole on Tuesday, and conceived himself so much improved that he made application for reinstatement on October 15. He was told he could have his position back if he brought his discharge from the hospital. Friday Hopkins sought Dr. Stack on this matter, who put him off by telling him to come to see him on October 1. Later in the day he went to a grocery store and offered to work for no wages, saying he must have employment. He was refused. This preyed on his mind.

Yesterday morning, however, he seemed in unusually good spirits, ate breakfast early, then kissed his wife good-by. At that time he had no revolver, and it is supposed he purchased the weapon during the morning, then went to the spot where he shot himself. He left no message of farewell.

Hopkins shot himself within 100 feet of the spot where, four years ago, Walter Frazier, for many years a clerk in the Ebbitt House, killed himself in the same manner.

When the facts had been made known to him, Coroner Nevitt issued a certificate of death by suicide, and turned the body over to Nalley's undertaking establishment. Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

**McNEILL WHISTLER'S ESTATE.**  
LONDON, Sept. 5.—Probate has been granted for the late James McNeill Whistler's estate, which is valued at \$50,000. The sole legatee and executrix is Miss Rosalind Philip, sister of Whistler's wife.

Store closes at 1 o'clock Monday.

**SEPT.  
FURNITURE  
SALE**

A reduction on one line of goods is not unusual, but a reduction of a fourth to a half on every kind of furniture that is needed for the house is the unique feature of these September Sales of ours.

**W. B. MOSES & SONS, F ST., Cor. 11th**

## SECRETARY HAY UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH

Crank Declares Himself the Judge and Executioner.

ARRESTED IN NEW YORK CITY

Artist Benque Has an Imaginary Claim Against the German Government.

Secretary Hay for two days has been under sentence of death pronounced upon him by Francis W. Benque, an artist of New York, who is thought to be mentally unbalanced. Benque was arrested today in New York on a request from the police authorities here, to whom Secretary Hay made complaint. Two days ago Secretary Hay received a letter from Benque, in which he announced that unless the Secretary should present a claim to the German government for \$18,000, alleged to be due the writer, he would himself execute the sentence of death which he pronounced. The three-day time limit expires tomorrow morning.

**Is an Old Offender.**  
Benque had previously written a number of letters to the State Department regarding his alleged claim, but none of them, except the last, has been of a threatening character. When the last communication declared death would be the penalty for failure to take prompt action it was immediately turned over to the local police officials who sent Detective Muller to New York to have the writer arrested.

A couple of policemen were detailed to patrol the streets leading to Secretary Hay's residence, and since last night all persons not well known have been refused an opportunity of applying for admittance. Secretary Hay and all his associates in the State Department today refused to give any information regarding Benque or his threatening letter. It has been ascertained, however, that Benque has been insisting for the past fifteen years that the United States should file a claim against Germany for \$18,000 and interest during that period. He alleged that the authorities at Hamburg forced him to leave that city, where he had established a photograph gallery. He was compelled to sell his business for \$2,000, instead of \$20,000, which he says it was worth. He desires Germany to pay him the difference.

**Brooded Over His Loss.**  
Several years ago the State Department made a full investigation. It was found that Benque, a naturalized American, returned to Germany and established a business in Hamburg. The German authorities sought to have him perform military duties on the ground that he had renounced his American citizenship. Benque has for many years been a familiar figure around the State Department corridors. He has striven earnestly to have some action taken looking to the collection of his claim. It is believed that brooding over his fancied wrong has unbalanced his mind.

## WOMAN PASSENGER TAKEN ILL ON TRAIN

When the Baltimore and Ohio train from the West arrived at the station yesterday morning at 7:30 o'clock Mrs. Flora Morrison, a passenger from Sutton, Va., was very ill. The police ambulance was called, and she was removed to Providence Hospital, accompanied by her husband. There it was found that she was in a very critical condition from some internal trouble. The physicians think an operation will be necessary. They are by no means confident that they can save her life, as her condition is very critical.

**ADDRESS TO MEN.**  
The Rev. A. E. Wurst, the summer supply at the First Congregational Church, will address the men's meeting at 3:30 this afternoon in the parlors of the Young Men's Christian Association building.

## SPECIAL NOTICES.

**ALL WOOL  
FABRICS  
CLOSED ALL DAY LABOR DAY**  
J. C. WINEMAN & CO.,  
"Know-How Tailors," 914 F St. N. W.

## COAL FOR SPOT CASH HOW'S THIS?

Pea Coal, for a Few Days, \$4.75 per Ton  
OUR OTHER PRICES ARE ALWAYS BELOW EVERYBODY ELSE'S.  
That's why our spot cash White Ash Eggs, \$6.85—that's why our prices White Ash Stove, \$6.25 are the lowest.  
Shamokin Stove, \$7.00  
Red Ash Stove, \$7.00  
Send postal or phone  
Furnace Coal, \$6.00 East 233.

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4th and F Sts. N. E.**

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UNDERTAKER AND LIVERY,  
622 Penn. Ave. N. W., Washington, D. C.**

## DISTRICT RIFLEMEN TAKE THIRD PRIZE

Revolver Team Match Held at Sea Girt

SKIRMISH FIRING BEGUN

Protest of the Marines Is Allowed. Match to Continue Tomorrow. Newsy Notes of Camp.

**SEA GIRT RIFLE RANGE, N. J., Sept. 5.**—The revolver team match, which centered attention at the rifle tournament this afternoon, was won by Squadron A, of New York, which overcame Light Battery A, of Massachusetts, by three points. A year ago the Yankees brushed off the New Yorkers by 19 points. The Third Battalion, District of Columbia, finished third, and the First Troop of New Jersey withdrew at the end of the first stage. Each contestant fired three strings of shots, fifty yards, at deliberate aim, and three at rapid fire, within ten seconds. The scores were:

Squadron A, N. Y., total, 849; Light Battery A, Mass., 846; Third Battalion, D. C., 831; Philadelphia City Troop, 576. The skirmish team match which a heavy thunderstorm interrupted at noon, was not finished this afternoon, as it would close the long ranges which the State teams urgently needed for practice for the national match. The skirmish match will be finished Monday morning. One of the United States Marine Corps team will take its run again. Its protest, that bugler sounded the "forward" this morning before it was ready, was allowed.

**Newsy Notes of Camp.**

Major John F. Guilfoyle, Twelfth Cavalry, executive officer of the range during the national match next Tuesday and Wednesday, arrived today to arrange for that contest, for which all the entries are here except the Georgians and the regulars. For the revolver team match the Essex troop, of Newark, N. J., has one team here, and for the carbine match, two teams. The members of the revolver team are: Capt. W. A. Bryant, Sergt. Franklin Phillips, Sergt. William Rollinson, Sergt. Charles Burgess, and Sergt. Wilbur Kyle.

**First Use of Hypocope.**  
With the hypocope, the invention of an Englishman, by which the marksman sights through a series of prisms and mirrors and remains fully protected, the first shooting in America was done this morning by Capt. W. B. Martin, of the Second New Jersey, and Corporal W. B. Short, of the Seventh New York. On a German-American ring target at 300 yards they scored 3 and 4.

Major Robert F. Ames, Sixteenth Infantry, U. S. A., is command of the detachments from the Eighth and Sixteenth regiments in practice here, left the range suddenly today, having been ordered to New York to take steamer for Porto Rico.

The defeat of the four District of Columbia representatives who, in the Wimbledon match scored 88, into Captain Richards, of Ohio, made 91, is attributed largely to the fact that the District contestants shot on the first relay. The conditions then were not nearly as good as they were for the second relay, when the Ohioan went to the butts. This was a bit of misfortune which the District men could not overcome.

## LAND OWNERS' GREED DELAYS NAVAL STATION

Plans for the projected naval station at Guantanamo have been delayed by the greed of land owners. A strip of land has been condemned, but the price is so high that an additional appropriation must be had. The land will be occupied temporarily, however, and will be used during the winter maneuvers.

## SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

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The University opens its eighty-third year with better facilities than ever before. It offers complete undergraduate, graduate, and professional courses of study.

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Graduates of the Washington High School and of other accredited schools admitted without examination. Classes are open to both men and women. Session begins Wednesday, September 30, at 9 a. m.

**LAW.**  
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**COLUMBIAN UNIVERSITY**  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
Charles W. Needham, LL. D. President.

## COST OF TRANSPORTING ARMY OFFICERS' HORSES

Comptroller Rules That Payment Is Authorized Under Dick Law.

The Comptroller of the Treasury, in a decision in answer to a communication from the Quartermaster General of the army, yesterday held that, under the new Dick law for the reorganization of the militia, payment could be made for the transportation from home rendezvous to the place of encampment and return of horses of officers required to be mounted. It is also held that the expenses for the hire of civilian labor, hire of teams, teamsters, plumber in construction of water supply, and for the removal of baggage, from the allotment under section 14 of the law, is not authorized.

The questions were raised by the Adjutant General of Maryland in a letter to the Quartermaster General of the army.

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